

Religion and Politics (Religious Studies 3CC3 / Political Science 3LA3) – Winter 2019

TEXT PREPARATION 5 – Assignment due in class on April 1 from anyone who has not completed a Text Preparation assignment

Please complete this assignment after having received your marked first assignment for this class. It is important to take full account of past feedback received in completing a further assignment for this course.

This assignment consists of attendance of the full class session on April 1, plus completing the written assignment below, to be submitted in class on April 1 only.

(*Rationale:* Text Preparation assignments are designed to help you prepare the reading assignment for a particular class meeting, in conjunction with your participation in that class meeting, when we go over the reading selection together.)

This assignment is based on:

- CBC Radio “The Current,” March 31, 2008—first 22 minutes, including documentary by Kathleen Goldhar, “Faith in the Law”
- Suzanne Last Stone, “The Intervention of American Law in Jewish Divorce” (2000), pp. 174-85
- Optional: Archbishop of Canterbury, Rowan Williams, “Civil and Religious Law in England: A Religious Perspective” (2008)

Detailed Instructions: In well-written paragraphs (a total of 500–600 words if you don’t address Question 2; a total of 600–700 words if you do address Question 2), please address the following question(s) with detailed reference to the text:

1.

According to

a) Suzanne Last Stone; and

b) at least three persons interviewed for the radio documentary “Faith in the Law” (briefly characterize and give the name of those whose views you cite),

what are some specific challenges posed by the issue of Jewish religious divorce (the *get*) for how we understand the separation of religion and secular law?

2. (*Optional*)

Does the issue of Jewish religious divorce in the secular state help to illustrate any of Rowan Williams’s ideas about “plural jurisdiction”?

Please number your answers to the individual questions.

continued on next page

As was the case for the Text Summary assignment, all your observations about the text should be backed up with references that allow your reader to see what they are based on; for this purpose, please use in-text parenthetical page references, as in this sample sentence:

Locke underscores that acts of violence are sometimes perpetrated “upon pretence of Religion” (23).

For parenthetical references to Stone and Williams, please use author name + page number. For references to “The Current”/“Faith in the Law,” use “The Current”; and please also identify the person you are citing.

Please print your assignment double-spaced and with one-inch margins, using an 11–12-point font. Please number and staple the pages you hand in. Please write “Text Preparation 5” at the top, and indicate the total word count at the end.

Note: Since this is your first reading of this text, and since we have not yet discussed it in class, the summary assignment is simply a first effort at figuring out what it says, and doing it will help you get the most of our in-class work on it. The assignment is not evaluated for whether it demonstrates a good understanding of the reading, but for evidence of your having worked in detail to understand the reading. Your fuller understanding will develop in the course of our class meetings, and with successive re-readings.

Plagiarism Warning: This assignment is designed to be completed by means of independent work on the assigned reading selection, aided by the guidance you have received in class/tutorial and by consulting the instructor and the TA: We are always available to discuss the questions you encounter as you read and re-read the texts for this class. It is neither necessary nor desirable that you consult outside sources in order to complete this assignment. Please remember that unacknowledged use of such sources constitutes plagiarism and is a violation of the university’s [Academic Integrity policy](#).

Please keep a copy of your assignment to refer to in our class and tutorial discussions.

posted March 25, 2019

<https://socialsciences.mcmaster.ca/danahol/3CC3/textprep5.pdf>